

Specifically, the exemplary system and method of this invention monitor one or more information streams until satisfaction of one or more rules is obtained. Upon satisfaction of one or more rules, the system and method notify a predetermined group of recipients that a rule has been satisfied and requests authorization from the predetermined group of recipients to create a new forum. Upon an indication from one or more of the predetermined group of recipients that a new forum is desired, the systems and methods of this invention establish a new forum and optionally notify the participating users that the new forum as been established.

Additionally, the systems and methods of this invention can be used in conjunction with co-pending ^{09/717,278} ~~Attorney Docket Nos. 1508.003170~~ entitled "Systems and Methods For Performing Sender-Independent Managing of Electronic Documents" and ^{09/717,298} ~~1508.003180~~ entitled "Systems and Methods for the Discovery and Presentation of Electronic Messages that are Related to an Electronic Message," filed herewith and incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

These and other features and advantages of this invention are described in or are apparent from the following detailed description of the embodiments of the present invention.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The embodiments of the invention will be described in detail, with reference to the following figures wherein:

FIG. 1 is a functional block diagram illustrating the exemplary forum monitoring device according to this invention; and

FIG. 2 is a flowchart outlining an exemplary method for monitoring an information stream according to this invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

By monitoring traffic in an information stream, the systems and methods of this invention can determine when traffic on a particular topic has reached a threshold. Upon meeting the threshold criteria, the systems and methods of this invention propose to the contributors of that topic, for example, through a user interface, that a new discussion forum be created. Upon confirmation that one or more of the contributors desires a new discussion forum, the systems and methods of this